

# FOLIO

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## TAKE THAT!

Kenji Yoshimi, left, and Valente Fabella demonstrate Ken-jutsu at the Kurimoto Japanese Garden Spring Festival held Sunday, June 8th at the U of A Devonian Botanic Garden. A record crowd toured the garden and enjoyed traditional Japanese dancing, drumming, flower arranging, music and a tea ceremony. The festival was co-sponsored by the Consulate-General of Japan.

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## Did you know...

that of 38 Edmonton and area valedictorians in a recent news feature, 31 have applied to and gained early admission to the U of A.

# Barriers to rural health-care delivery coming down

## U of A's Telehealth sparks a \$21 million investment

By Judy Goldsand

A mother-to-be in a clinic in High Level has an obstetrical ultrasound examination supervised by Dr. Mary Ann Johnson in Edmonton.

Another patient and her health practitioner in Two Hills consult with a U of A physical therapist, Professor Monica Whitridge, without travelling to the city. Family physicians in four different Alberta towns don't have to leave their practices to attend a seminar with Dr. Paul Davis and colleagues at the U of A.

All this is made possible with Telehealth in pilot projects involving new long distance communication technology. The term Telehealth is used to describe the delivery of health services, educational programs, or collaboration in research using interactive video, audio, and computer technologies. It allows instantaneous consultation, physical examination, study

of x-rays and laboratory findings, supervision of treatment or educational discussions among participants in diverse locations. Telehealth technology was introduced in Alberta by the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine with equipment provided by Hughes Aircraft of Canada.

"The barriers in health-care delivery to remote sites are coming down," says Masako Miyazaki, director of the Coordinating Council of Health Sciences (CCHS) Telehealth Centre. Alberta Health, along with an anonymous donor, will invest \$21 million for equipment to establish 160 Telehealth sites across the province. The system will eventually extend across Canada and around the world, says Miyazaki. Sapporo Medical University in Japan will become a U of A Telehealth communication hub site for the Pacific.

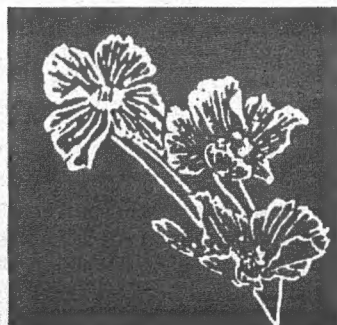
The CCHS Telehealth Centre is a virtual Centre that oversees four sites on campus. Site Coordinators for three sites are in place: Rehabilitation Medicine: Dr. Lili Liu; Nursing: Dr. Pat Hayes; Medicine and Oral Health Sciences: Dr. Paul Davis. The Pharmacy site director has yet to be appointed.

Pat Hayes, Telehealth coordinator for the Faculty of Nursing, says the new technologies offer abundant opportunities. For example, the Keeweenaw Lakes Health Region in Northwestern Alberta has plans to offer health services via satellite connections to nursing stations in four northern communities. The day is coming, says Hayes, when a patient can be sent home with a small monitor that would allow a care giver to change bandages or do other procedures under supervision, via video, of health professionals located elsewhere.

Dr. Mamoru Watanabe, former dean of Medicine at the University of Calgary, chairs the Alberta Telehealth Subcommittee that is working with partners in education, health, government and industry to develop a coordinated provincial Telehealth enterprise.

Alberta's Telehealth projects are only part of a much larger picture, he says. "Centres across Canada are experimenting with the delivery of health care and educational services to distant sites using the new information and telecommunication technologies."

Watanabe expects to submit the subcommittee's report to the Provincial Committee for Information Management and Information Technology, headed by Dr. Tom Noseworthy, chair of the U of A's Department of Public Health Sciences in a few weeks. ■



Celebrate Summer Solstice at the Devonian Botanic Garden. Join us for

## WINES OF THE WORLD

Thursday, June 19 starting at 7pm

- Taste wines from Australia, Chile and Italy while strolling the Garden
- Sample Hors d'oeuvres specially chosen to enhance the selection of wines
- Indulge in dessert and coffee on the Garden patio to complete the evening

- Wines supplied by *The Wine Cellar*
- Hors d'oeuvres provided by *Catering to You*

Tickets are \$35.00 per person.

Tickets are available at the Devonian Botanic Garden, 987-3054 (Highway 60, North of Devon) or The Wine Cellar, 488-9463.



# Better information equals better health, says Noseworthy

## A national information infrastructure needed

By Judy Goldsand

We don't have a health information infrastructure in Alberta or in the country, says Dr. Tom Noseworthy, chair of Public Health Sciences.

"We have information being used, we have computer systems at work, we have information management and information technology activities, but not what one could call an infrastructure," he says.

In Alberta there are 30 health records systems, more than 15 financial systems, 10 payroll systems and about 20 materials management systems. The challenge for the province as well as the country is to find a way to integrate

and build upon the information we have to develop a provincial, and then a national, information infrastructure.

The goal, says Noseworthy, is better health for Albertans and Canadians. If better decisions can be made on the basis of aggregate data gathered from large populations, the assumption



Dr. Tom Noseworthy

is that it will result in better health, he says. There are still large issues such as confidentiality, legal liability, and remuneration that have to be worked out.

Noseworthy heads the Alberta Committee for Information Management and Information Technology (IMIT) and co-chaired the recently completed National Forum on Health. The Alberta Committee for IMIT is currently receiving proposals from major technology companies to provide the linkages for the province's first integrated health network. Announcements about this are expected during the summer. ■

## CaPS WORKSHOPS

Career and Placement Services (CaPS) is offering the following workshops on Saturday, June 21, 1997.

Creative Work Search Strategies • 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Creating Résumés & Covering Letters that Work! • 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Job Interviews • 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information and to register for these workshops, come to CaPS @ 2-100 SUB or call 492-4291.



Elizabeth Sanderson, Robert Fox, Annelind Wakegijig

## Native health-care awards presented

The Faculty of Medicine presented awards June 6 to students in the Native Health Care Careers Program. Recipients are: Elizabeth Sanderson, a 1997 graduate—the first Tom Wegmann Memorial Award in Medicine designated for a student showing academic promise and an interest in Native health care; Robert Fox—the first Darcy Tailfeathers Memorial Award for incoming students; and

Annelind Wakegijig, a 1997 graduate—the Darcy Tailfeathers Memorial Award for achievement, involvement in the Native community, and leadership qualities. The Darcy Tailfeathers Memorial Award was endowed, by the faculty, family and friends of the first Native student in the program who tragically was killed in an accident in the third year of his studies. ■



## LAURELS

### CHANASYK WINS 1997 JIM BEAMISH AWARD

■ Dr. David S. Chanasyk, professor of renewable resources and director of the University Water Resource Centre, has been awarded the CSAE/SCGR Jim Beamish Award for his contributions to teaching and research in the soil and water area of agricultural engineering.

During more than 20 years of active teaching, research and administration, Chanasyk's work has covered a broad range including soil physics, irrigation and hydrology, and land reclamation and range management. He has supervised 22 graduate students in the area of soil and water and currently supervises six graduate students.

The award is given annually to recognize the professional excellence of a CSAE/SCGR member. It is sponsored by the alumni committee of Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA).

### KEAST HONORED FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION RESEARCH

■ Dr. David Keast, special sessions, Faculty of Extension, has been honored by the Distance Education and Training Association (ADETA) with its 1997 Research

Award for his evaluation research project entitled "Access to University Studies: Implementing and Evaluating Multi-Point Video-Conferencing." The evaluation research was based on the collaborative distance education venture in Northern Alberta involving the University of Alberta, Fairview College and Kayas Cultural College.

Keast presented his paper on the project to the Canadian Association of University Continuing Education (CAUCE) Conference in Fredericton, NB in May. The paper also appears in the spring 1997 edition of the *Canadian Journal of University Continuing Education*.

### GUIDOTTI ELECTED DIRECTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION

■ Dr. Tee L. Guidotti, professor of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Oral Health Sciences, has been elected to a three-year term as director of the American Colleges of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM).

The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, founded in 1916, promotes worker and environmental health through preventative medicine, clinical practice, research and education. It is the largest organization of its kind in the US and represents over 7,000 occupational medicine physicians.



## EVENTS

### EYERHYMES CONFERENCE AND FESTIVAL

EyeRhymes, a multi-disciplinary, international conference on visual poetry June 12 to 16, brings together scholars and artists from a variety of disciplines who share an interest in the many and varied connections between poetry and the visual arts. Call 492-3261; E-mail: [eyerhyme@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:eyerhyme@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca); home page: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~eyerhyme/>.



### BRUCE PEEL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY

June 12 to August 15  
Official opening Thursday June 12, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"Wordsounz & eye rhymes," visual poetry and artist books from the permanent collection of the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library. Open Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library South, University of Alberta. Call 492-5998.

### LATITUDE 53 GALLERY

June 11 to 16  
Official opening Friday, June 13, 8 to 11 p.m.  
Contextualities, an exhibition of contemporary Canadian visual poetry. The official opening Friday June 13, will feature readings by Paul Dutton, Marc Sutherland and others. Latitude 53 Gallery is at 10137 104 Street, Edmonton. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 423-5353.

### FAB GALLERY

June 13-22  
ImageNations, an exhibition of visual poetry from around the world. The official opening Thursday will feature performances and readings by Alex Ocheretyansky, Clemente Padin, Sergei Provorov, Bob Cobbing, Fred Wah and Johanna Bartl. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 492-2081.

### MCMULLEN GALLERY

Until June 30  
"Original Voices—Twelve Artists With Aboriginal Heritage"—an exhibition of sculpture, drawing and painting by twelve emerging artists with aboriginal heritage. Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m.; Thursday, 5 to 8 p.m. Information: 492-8428 or 492-4211. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

### FAB GALLERY

June 27-August 3  
The Abstract Painting Workshop Exhibition. Works from students in the first ever Spring Session in abstract painting will be showcased. Gallery hours are 1-0 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 492-2081.

### FACULTY OF EXTENSION, SUMMER YOUTH UNIVERSITY

Month of July  
This July over 700 Alberta junior and senior high school students will get a taste of university life at Summer Youth University. The five-day program, offered by the University of Alberta's Faculty of Extension, allows secondary students to experience academic studies and campus life without homework or exams. Three sessions of Summer Youth University are offered on the University of Alberta campus in July. Supervised accommodation is also available on campus. To register or for more information call 492-5597.

### ALUMNI RECEPTION, ST. ALBERT

June 20  
The U of A Alumni Association is sponsoring a special reception at the City of St. Albert's *Celebration of Learning*. All alumni and friends of the University are invited as are current and prospective students and their parents. The reception will be held at Grandin Park Plaza, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Avenue from 5 to 7 p.m. To register, call 492-3224 or E-mail: [alumni@ualberta.ca](mailto:alumni@ualberta.ca).

### NEW ETHICS APPROVAL PROCESS PLANNED

A new regional health research ethics approval process is planned for September 1997 under the auspices of the Health Research Ethics Board. This process will replace the current research ethics committees at Capital Health, Caritas and the health science faculties at the U of A.

For researchers in these areas, this means there will no longer be a need for proposals to go through multiple committees. As well, all proposals will now be evaluated by multi-disciplinary committees.

This new process will apply to almost all proposals from health science faculty members or involve CHA or Caritas patients, staff or resources. Information about the new process and application forms will be available on a web-site as of July 1, 1997 (<http://www.grhosp.ab.ca/ethics.html>). ■

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*Folio's* mandate is to serve as a credible news source for internal audiences by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events.

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# Multimedia enters the world of literature—and changes the way kids learn

## Peter Rabbit leading literary figure in the race to multimedia

By Lee Elliott



Dr. Margaret Mackey

Your children may have inherited your hair color, your eyes and even your temper, but they didn't inherit your world. Today's children live in a world filled with multimedia technology that adults are still trying to master and understand. The influence of new media is enormous and may have even changed the way children learn.

The challenge, according to Dr. Margaret Mackey of the School of Library and Information Studies, is to discover what influences multimedia has on the way children learn and to find ways to adapt our schools and teaching methods to keep pace.

Mackey has spent the last several years searching for the influence of media on children as they explore literature. She did both graduate and postdoctoral research in the area and recently received a \$50,000 SSHRCC grant to continue her research over the next three years.

What she's found so far is that children are drawing on other media to illuminate their reading. In one part of her research, Mackey took a group of 12 to 18 year olds and had them read *Wolf* by Gillian Cross.

"The book had oblique references to Little Red Riding Hood throughout," says Mackey. Little Red Riding Hood wasn't named, but the reference was there. At one point, the story contains the line, *Grandmother what big eyes you have*. This is a pretty obvious reference for most adults who grew up hearing and reading Western fairy tales. However, when she discussed this line with one reader, he couldn't recall where he'd heard it or the name of the story, but he could bring to mind a comic image of an ugly wolf in bed with blond ringlets and a lacy bonnet.

"This was a very intelligent, well-read boy," says Mackey, "but in this case, his spontaneous reaction as far as I could in-

terpret it came from a cartoon." While he was drawing on another medium to interpret his reading, "it was giving him the wrong emotional message," she says. "The book was drawing on the terror of the moment . . . his repertoire was comic."

At about the same time, Mackey was involved in another inquiry—following the proliferation of Peter Rabbit books, toys, games, videos, clothes, dishes and more—to learn more about the commodification of children's literature. The result is a book, *The Case of Peter Rabbit: Changing Conditions of Literature for Children* soon to be published by Garland Publishing.

Mackey has collected hundreds of versions of the Peter Rabbit story and in her travels through Canada, the US and the UK was able to determine at least 75 different categories of products related to Peter Rabbit. We're only starting to question what effect this has on kids, she says. "If I say Thomas the Tank Engine to you and your first thought is of your night light, it's a different response again. . . If you use your fictional experiences to organize your life as a consumer what does that do to your fictional experience?"

In another study, Mackey had children from Grades 2, 5 and 8 work with different versions of *The Secret Garden* in small groups. The children explored a variety of print versions, looked at extracts from five different movies, listened to three different audio tapes and used a CD-ROM version.

One video version of the story featured such new elements as talking cats and birds. "I asked the children if they thought it was all right to introduce a talking cat to

the story," says Mackey. The answers varied widely, but demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of media—almost as genre. Mackey says one child said, "It would be all right in some cartoons, but it wasn't all right in this cartoon because it was a serious story." Another said, "It wouldn't be right in a movie, but it was okay in a cartoon." One child thought it was okay because the story already had animals, while another said it was acceptable because cartoons are for children, and children expect animals to talk.

When children talked about the older technologies, they talked with a very sophisticated level of analysis. Mackey says with the CD-ROM, however, they just said, 'this is cool. We didn't know you could do this.' "They didn't know the territory," she says.

She also found children prefer different media depending on the circumstance—long audio tapes for car trips for instance. But they were all comfortable with a wide range of options.

"There's plusses and minuses all over the place," says Mackey. Children are now very different explorers of literature than we were and are changing as rapidly as the technology does. The challenge for school systems, she says, "is to find ways to deal with the expertise kids come with as well as narrowing the gap between those who have it and those who don't."

It's a huge task. In a recent survey of materials used in Grade 10 English, Mackey said she found a variety of books, 12 filmstrips, videos and one CD-ROM. "This is not a criticism of the teachers," she says. "What it is, is a snapshot of the shift." ■

## Comparative study of Chinese literature and culture gets big boost

### Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange awards major grant to University

By Michael Robb

The comparative study of Chinese literature and culture at the University just took another giant leap forward. The Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (USA) has awarded the University a \$108,235 US grant for a project entitled Chinese Literature and Culture.

The grant will allow the Department of Modern Languages and Comparative Studies to hire a scholar for three years. The new scholar will oversee the enhancement of program development. At the end of the three years, the University will be encouraged to make the position permanent.

"This is the single biggest grant the department has ever received," says Dr. Earle Waugh, professor of Modern Languages and Comparative Studies. "This prestigious award is a feather in our caps and recognizes the University of Alberta as a significant player in the field. This will encourage program development over the long haul."

The award brings financial benefits and will strengthen U of A ties with other institutions. In the last several years, the Taiwanese, in particular, have begun to pay more attention to Canadian institutions. The Foundation is headquartered in Taiwan.

"This fits in nicely with where comparative studies wants to go," says Waugh, and the new scholar will coordinate activities with what's being offered in East Asian Studies. The University has particular strengths in the study of Canadian and European literature and culture; now it can bolster its strength in the study of Chinese literature and culture. Waugh expects the appointment will be made in the study of modern Chinese literature.

The shot in the arm will also benefit students—particularly those who are interested in the comparative study of literature and culture. Taiwanese, mainland Chinese and Canadian students will receive the benefits of a well-rounded program. The comparative aspect will continue to be a real strength, explains Dr. Steven Tötösy, associate director of the Research Institute for Comparative Literature.

The good news follows on the heels of an immensely successful 31st meeting of the Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast Conference, held at the University June 20-22, 1996. Three-hundred and ten scholars from around the world participated in that conference.

"This grant is a measure of our international maturity," says Waugh. ■

## U of A counselling aces the ABC's of customer service

By Lee Elliott

While Student Counselling Services at the U of A didn't know they were in a competition, they nevertheless won an award for the "most impressive customer service story reported by a student."

The ABC award is the brainchild of Ann Hickmann, vice-president responsible for the ALBERTA BEST and international SERVICE BEST training programs with ATEC and Judy Woyewitka, conference chair of the 14th Annual Alberta Services for Students Conference held May 4 through 7 at Lakeland College, Vermilion.

Hickmann gave the keynote address at the conference and presented the award. "I really thought to take it home to people in the talk I needed concrete details.... What I understood from talking to Judy is that some institutions are there as far as customer service, while others aren't."

To get those specifics, she and three ATEC staff members conducted random telephone and in-person interviews of roughly 100 students from a sampling of post-secondary institutions throughout the province.

The winning customer service story came from a U of A student who had been seeing one of the counsellors at Student Counselling on a bi-weekly basis. She came in for her regular, previously booked appointment, but discovered there was no record of her appointment on the computer and that her counsellor's day was filled.

The counsellor made the award-winning "customer service" response of meeting with the student on her lunch break. The counsellor and the secretary then broke the usual office policy and booked

the student in for her next appointment more than two weeks in advance, to make sure she got in.

The counsellor's response was great and so was the secretary's, says Hickmann. "No one person can make a student's total impression positive. Everyone has a role to play."

The worst "entry" came from an unidentified institution where a student reported waiting hours in line to get his student ID only to find when he got to the front of the line that the machine had broken down. He was told to come back the next day and do the whole thing again. Not only should a backup have been in place, says Hickmann, but "perhaps he should have been given special treatment the next day."

Another story of bad service involved a student making three trips and one phone call to a legal services department only to find that they didn't deal with the type of problem he had.

"I was trying to make it a bit fun," says Hickmann. "Part of this keynote was a top ten list of what bugs students." The list: 10.) limited payment options 9.) line-ups at the Registrar's Office 8.) limited hours of services 7.) the "run-around," unknowledgeable staff 6.) bad attitudes, being treated with no respect 5.) Book-store—lineups and knapsack drop off 4.) being limited by policy without explanation. 3.) being put down in class by profs 2.) Having staff offer solutions before finding out needs 1.) Line-ups for student ID.

The ABC award stands for "A Business of Customers," or "A Business of Caring," the conference theme. ■



# Poetry assignment leads to love

by Carol Brandly (BA '93)

When I first decided to take Japanese 101 at the U of A, I wasn't really sure what it would lead to. Now, twelve years later, I can't imagine my life without Japanese. Through the study of not only the language but also the literature of Japan, I was able to meet my husband, Toshiaki.

I first met Toshiaki when I was on a one-year exchange to Shizuoka University from the U of A. During my time there studying Japanese literature, I became involved in an informal haiku circle. Toshiaki, who loved writing haiku and other poetry, was the organizer of this circle. Japanese haiku and tanka poetry appealed to me because one can compose them without necessarily worrying if it is

"good" or not. My poems are certainly no masterpieces, but I enjoy writing them and I'm amazed how easily I can express my feelings through such an economy of words.

The Japanese have used poetry as a way of communicating with each other for well over a thousand years, and this is exactly how Toshiaki and I got to know each other. When I returned to Japan on the JET Programme, I decided to write to Toshiaki, who was then still just an acquaintance. I sent him a couple of tanka which I had written for a Japanese 418 assignment, one of which is as follows:

In ignorant bliss  
The people of Edmonton  
See not what I see.  
The earth engulfing the moon,  
Darkness covering my heart.

About a month later, to my amazement I received a ten page letter from him which included his translations of my tanka into Japanese along with some of his own poetry. He apparently found deep meaning in my poetry, and it sparked his curiosity. He told me that he worried what darkness was in my heart and also praised me on my insight into human denial of the evil in everyday life... Actually that tanka was just about a lunar eclipse I saw out-

side of overcast Edmonton. The darkness was simply the pressure of all my Japanese assignments weighing down on me. Nevertheless, it served its purpose in getting Toshiaki interested in me!

I then wrote to Toshiaki and asked him to accompany me on a walk on "Yama no be no michi," an ancient road in Nara, and he agreed. During the walk we came across a small and unusually calm pond where the haiku poet Basho had paused and written a poem centuries earlier. Toshiaki was inspired by this and sent me his haiku a week later at Christmas:

kogarashi ga      The wintry wind  
iki o hisomeru    Hides its breath  
ike no fuchi       In the pond's depths

Little did I realize at the time, but this poem was actually Toshiaki's way of confessing his love for me. Toshiaki's feelings were personified by the wind, and the pond was his heart. My Japanese friends understood the meaning right away when I showed it to them, but I didn't catch on until a bit later.

Toshiaki and I went on to exchange dozens of haiku and tanka over the next few years, and this January, we were married. I'd like to thank Sonja Arntzen because if it were not for that tanka she asked us to write in Japanese 418, I might



Carol Brandly and her husband Toshiaki

never have found my true love. And as Sonja advised us, I would like to continue to "keep the poetry in our relationship" for years to come. ■

\*Reprinted with permission from the East Asian Studies Alumni Association Newsletter.

## U of A brings home the medals in corporate challenge

By Scott Gasson



After two weeks of competition, this year's Edmonton and Area Corporate Challenge has come to an end. U of A participants ran, walked, swam, cycled, bowled, volleyed, dunked, pitched, kicked, pocketed, hit, smashed, doubled in and out, but most of all had fun.

A lot of new acquaintances were made around campus and around Edmonton. The University competed in 19 of 20 events and placed 8th out of 29 organizations. Congratulations go out to the table tennis (gold), squash (gold), orienteering (silver) and soccer (bronze) teams who won medals and to all of this year's participants who proudly represented the University of Alberta.

The coordinators hope everybody who participated had a truly wonderful time and look forward to your involvement again next year. If you would like more information on Corporate Challenge, please contact Scott Gasson at scott.gasson@ualberta.ca or at ext. 9667. ■

## Top Nova Scotia student likes U of A attitude

Student Awards recruits Canada's best

By Chris Floden

Jennifer Perry sounded a bit worried on the phone. The Nova Scotia student has never been west of Ontario, and will be the farthest travelling graduate from the Sydney Academy this September when she attends the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Sciences.

As the most outstanding student in the graduating class of the Sydney Academy, her decision to accept the Top of the Class President's Citation to the U of A was a big one. She applied to five other universities across Canada and was offered major scholarships from two of them before deciding to accept the President's Citation, worth \$25,000 over four years.

What persuaded her to join us here? "The feeling from the literature, letters, publications and web site is enthusiastic," she says. "The U of A is not one of the top rated universities now, but there is definitely a feeling that it wants to be."

That feeling may come from the personal touches the student recruitment programs offer. Winners of the President's Citation and Chancellor's Citation are

pulled out of class to be told to expect a call. That evening, the President or Chancellor calls each successful applicant personally to inform them of their award and invite them to the U of A.

Ron Chilibeck, director of the Office of Student Awards, relates a story of a family in Sherwood Park who received such a call. The parents of the student selected phoned Chilibeck to tell him how the excited family gathered in the kitchen with a video camera to record the event. It was the first time they'd ever seen their son at a loss for words, they said.

Perry is impressed with the amount of effort the U of A puts into its recruitment. She has received a barrage of phone calls and has talked to dozens of people at the U of A. Another university, she says, hasn't even sent a calendar.

Chilibeck recognizes that these kinds of initiatives could not be done without the support of President Rod Fraser. "The new president identified [student recruitment] as a priority, and now Student Awards is getting support for it," he said. That support has led to innovative pro-

grams like Top of the Class and On Your Marks, a scholarship program for Grade 11 students.

Applications for the awards are up this year from 150 to 220 and are coming from a significantly wider region. Chilibeck says our current success is no reason to get complacent, however. The U of A is still significantly behind other major universities in total scholarship dollars available.

All the recruitment in the world will not be of any use if a student is treated poorly when they call or arrive, says Chilibeck. It's important to have the support of the whole campus to be successful at student recruitment.

The Top of the Class program has offered about \$700,000 in scholarships this year to students with outstanding grades. The minimum average to be considered for the award is 95 per cent. Applicants are nominated by school administrators, and this year they have been received from as far away as Texas, St. Petersburg and the Ivory Coast. ■



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# Reform MP Rahim Jaffer represents University constituency

Former law professor, Anne McLellan, returns to Ottawa in justice post

By Michael Robb

The federal riding of Edmonton-Strathcona has a new member of Parliament. Rahim Jaffer defeated Ginette Rodger, the Liberal candidate, by less than 3,000 votes in last week's federal election, June 2, to hold on to the seat for the Reform Party.

So who is this new kid on the block? Jaffer has lived in Edmonton for 18 years. His family came to Canada in 1972 after the Ugandan government led by tyrant Idi Amin confiscated his family's business and home and sent them packing as refugees. "I know about injustice in the rest of the world," says Jaffer.

Jaffer is a 25-year-old graduate of the University of Ottawa. He has an honors degree in social sciences. He and his family own a Grabbajabba franchise in Old Strathcona and a bakery cafe in West Edmonton. He is a member of the Old Strathcona Foundation and Business Association, the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation.

Jaffer is expected to stand out among his colleagues in the official opposition. He is from a visible minority, he is one of the youngest members of Parliament and he is fluently bilingual. And he knows what life is like east of the Ottawa River: he served briefly as a teaching assistant in Quebec City.

Jaffer is no stranger to Parliament Hill. He knows the corridors of power in Ottawa, through serving for about four years as a legislative assistant to Dennis Mills, a Liberal MP from the Toronto area. "I was a wide-eyed federalist," explains Jaffer. Over time, however, Jaffer says he was appalled at the extent to which party politics silenced MPs. He was particularly disturbed by the Liberal Party's decision to kick Toronto MP John Nunziata—re-elected this time as an independent—out of the party for his stand on the abolishment of the goods and services tax.

"I began to look at Reform. I realized it stood for a closer sense of democracy," says Jaffer, and the idea of free votes particularly appealed to him. "I realized that the federal government could be working a lot better," he recalls.

Conversations he had with neighboring Edmonton MP Ian McLellan were also influential and encouraging. He



Rahim Jaffer



Anne McLellan

rolled up his sleeves and got heavily involved with the Reform Party.

The new MP says the University community will be seeing a lot more of him than it did of his predecessor, Hugh Hanrahan, who, unfortunately, fell ill during his term as MP. Jaffer, whose brother Saiyed is a U of A science student, claims that the Reform Party has the largest political club on campus and is very active. Many of the club's members worked on his campaign. Across the river in the Edmonton West riding, many campus Liberals, meanwhile, worked on incumbent Anne McLellan's successful re-election campaign.

While Jaffer will sit on the official opposition benches, McLellan will occupy a

more powerful position on the government side of the House. The former minister of natural resources, well-regarded by people in the province's energy sector and considered a friend of the University of Alberta, has assumed the senior position of justice minister. ■

## EDMONTON-STRATHCONA

(1993: Reform 404)

Rahim Jaffer Ref	20,605
Ginette Rodger Lib	17,654
Jean McBean NDP	7,256
Edo Nyland PC	3,614
Karina Gregory Grn	405

## EDMONTON-WEST

(1993: Lib 12)

Anne McLellan Lib	16,451
DC Kurpijuweit Ref	15,306
Duane Good Siker NDP	3,138
Helen Stephenson PC	2,597
Roger Swan Grn	194

## Science gold medal winners announced

Computing science student Howard Cheng is this year's recipient of the Lieutenant-Governor's Gold Medal in Science, awarded to the graduating student from an honors program in science who has shown the highest distinction in scholarship. Cheng plans to enrol in the fall in the MSc program in Computing Science at the U of A.



Howard Cheng

Genetics student Michael Veeman is the recipient of the Gold Medal in Science, awarded to the graduating student from a specialization program who has shown the highest distinction in scholarship. He plans to study molecular and cellular biology at the University of Washington in the fall.

And biological sciences student Joanna Wilson is the recipient of the Dean's Gold Medal in Science, awarded to the graduating student from a general program who has shown the highest distinction in scholarship. She is working on a bison research project in Wood Buffalo National park over the summer and plans to spend the coming year volunteering in the environmental field. ■

## U of A plays host to international diplomats

The topic of globalization was at the top of the agenda at the U of A portion of the 1997 Edmonton International Conference May 28 to 30.

The conference was hosted by the U of A, the Edmonton Garrison, the City of Edmonton and the Province of Alberta. Conference delegates, which included 20 ambassadors, six representatives, 10 official observers, 12 military attaches and advisors (all from Ottawa), visited the U of A on Thursday, May 29.

The morning session consisted of a welcome by Associate Vice-President Doug O'ram followed by an overview of the Industry Liaison Office by Associate Director John Barrington Leigh.

Delegates then participated in one of three tours given by the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Engineering and the Departments of Fine Arts and Drama.

The afternoon event, which was opened by Chancellor Hyndman, con-

sisted of presentations and discussion groups on the topic of, "The Real Meaning of Globalization." Students and faculty joined country representatives and military attaches in the discussions.

Russian ambassador Alexander Belonogov and Counsellor Arend Huitzung from the Embassy of the Netherlands helped frame the discussions as they explained their perspectives on the importance of globalization and raised issues such as the growing importance of technology and the tension created by the regionalization versus internationalization of nations.

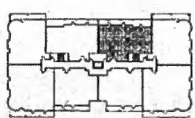
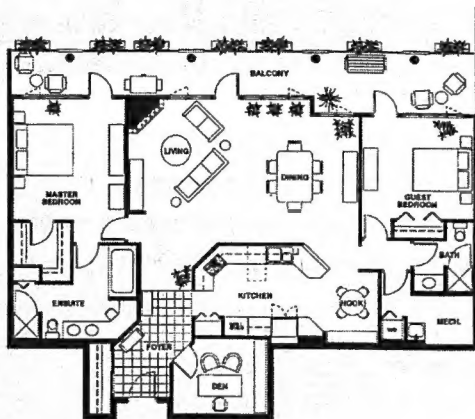
The participants then broke into smaller groups led by U of A professors Drs. Richard Beason, Wenran Jiang, Thomas Keating and Linda Reif to discuss other globalization issues such as income distribution, regionalization cultural barriers, power dynamics, the environment, and international law. The lively and

frank conversations seemed to raise more questions than they answered, and in some instances, questioned whether or not globalization could be defined or even existed.

Despite the lack of common agreement on what globalization really means, there was a general feeling that just talking about globalization with a group of international participants contributed to a more global perspective and understanding. Some participants suggested the global conversation was so helpful it should continue, perhaps through the Internet.

In the evening, delegates were hosted by the Chancellor at a dinner at the Faculty Club. A number of vice-presidents and deans were also in attendance and informal discussions took place on research projects and educational partnerships which were occurring between specific faculties and other countries. ■

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# Let the adventures begin...

*The U of A offers a summer of adventures, from luxurious cruises to challenging climbs on mountain peaks*

By Michael Robb

Riding the Trans-Siberian railway, climbing a Rocky Mountain summit, digging for artifacts in central Italy, cruising the Danube River, kayaking the Broken Islands on Canada's west coast. Looking for an adventure this summer?

No one walks up to the counter of the Campus Outdoor Centre and says emphatically, "Hey, I'm looking for an adventure. What do you have to offer?" Nevertheless, many people have the time and resources, but lack know-how, explains the Centre's manager, Jacqueline Hutchison. So, they rely on the professionals to make their adventures possible.

Across campus, instructors, centres and institutes are making adventures possible this summer for many people. Instructors in the Department of History and Classics are conducting field schools for students in Italy and Africa.

In Anthropology, professors and students are travelling to the far northern regions of this continent and conducting a field school in Jasper. Across the world, Dr. Andrzej Weber is leading 10 students on a grave excavation of a hunter-gatherer cemetery dating back 4000 to 6000 years. The students will set up 300 kilometres east of the Siberian city of Irkutsk, at Lake Baikal. To get there, they'll travel the historic Trans-Siberian Railway.

"It will be a unique cultural experience for the students—a chance to experience a totally different culture," says Weber.

Closer to home, Campus Outdoor Centre instructor Cyril Shokoples, an internationally certified mountain guide,



Last year's kayaking trippers explored Clayoquot Sound; this year, the Broken Islands are the destination.

will introduce participants to mountaineering. They'll tackle the basic rock, snow and ice climbing methods and culminate the week-long course with a summit climb. Shokoples will also lead another group, teaching them the intermediate skills of mountaineering. They, too, will climb a Rocky Mountain peak.

People interested in getting from point A to point B on water will be able to take

courses from the Centre such as introductory kayaking, an introduction to moving water, an introduction to whitewater and river rescue. A group of enthusiasts will paddle their kayaks off the Broken Island group on Canada's west coast. From August 18-22, they'll paddle among the killer whales, while bald eagles soar overhead.

Finding adventure with the help of the University of Alberta doesn't always have

to involve testing one's physical abilities, however. Alumni who want to watch the sun set over the Danube can do so in July aboard the M.S. Ukraina. They'll cruise past baroque buildings of extraordinary beauty, down the romantic Wachau Valley and spend some time wandering the streets of Vienna.

Another Alumni Association-sponsored tour, aboard the M.S. Maadsam, will set sail in early August to visit seven ports in England, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Sweden, Finland and Russia.

And while alumni sip champagne as the sun sets on the Baltic and North Seas, teenagers will explore the badlands of southeastern Alberta on the Red Deer River. Last year, the Outdoor Centre had 210 children and teenagers sign up for camps, explains Hutchison. "They come back to our programs year after year."

And why not? Two "adventure" camps will run in August. They include outdoor camping, canoeing, inline skating, orienteering, new games, nature awareness, sport climbing and crafts. An advanced rock climbing course will run in the Bow Corridor and a rock climbing camp will be held at the Kootenay Plains. And if climbing isn't your style, then the Centre has a mountain bike camp in Jasper that runs virtually all summer.

And remember that west coast kayaking trip we told you about? The Centre's also offering a kayak camp for ages 13-17 in Kananaskis country—sewing the seeds, perhaps, for adventures to come. ■

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*Julio Picheca*  
Julio Picheca  
Director





## SUMMER READING

### Staff picks for the best book to take to the beach

#### FRAN ROSS

Director of Marketing Services  
Faculty of Extension

*Fall on Your Knees* by Ann-Marie MacDonald

MacDonald writes with a playwright's insight into the layers of storytelling—from the intensely personal stories we weave out of our own recollections and experiences to the broad canvas of a community hurtling through the upheavals of a new century. She has fresh, daring narrative style while never compromising the unfolding of this incredible tale of a family through several generations.

The story is grounded in some harsh realities, including family violence, labour unrest, personal suffering and class warfare. But it is woven through with a strong thread of magic and small measures of healing, redemption and peace.

It's a ripping great story with some real depth of personality, complexity of issues. It's got it all—pianos, coal mines, rum runners and madness.

It also has shades of *Piano Man's Daughter* by Timothy Findley. If you liked that, you'll love it.

#### DR. MARGARET MACKEY

School of Library and Information Studies  
Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Dr. Mackey has done graduate and postdoctoral research on children's response to literature and the way modern media is affecting that response and is continuing her research with the help of a three-year SHRRCC grant.

"There's more great literature out there for young people now than ever before," she says. When she's not keeping

up on the best reading for children and young adults, she likes to curl up with her own book. She recommends the best book you can buy your teen for summer and a great read for yourself.

#### RECOMMENDED FOR TEENS 12 TO 18: *The Golden Compass* by Philip Pullman.

It's a fantasy. I don't like fantasy usually but I love this one. It's set in a rewritten version of our world. It's one of the most inventive books I've read in a long, long time. It's got the kind of sweep of the *Lord of the Rings*. It is the first of a trilogy and the only frustration readers will have is that the other two books in the series haven't been published yet.

#### RECOMMENDED FOR ADULTS:

*Behind the Scenes at the Museum* by Kate Atkinson

It's just fabulous—Kate Atkinson was the winner of the Whitbread last year. It's a story of a family told from the point of view of the youngest child with retrospective chapters of the family history. It's beautifully written. The voice is just compelling. The child tells the story, so you get the child's perspective but at the same time she knows everything.

#### ELKE CHRISTIANSON

Alumni Branches Manager  
Alumni Affairs

*Smilla's Sense of Snow*, by Peter Hoeg  
Smilla, the main character in *Smilla's Sense of Snow*, is an unforgettably strong female character in an unforgettably strong story. If you can stand the ice and snow this summer this is an excellent book. If you're a cheater, the film by the same title, a European-American collabo-

ration, is a worthy substitute with a more tidy ending.

Smilla doesn't believe Isaiah has fallen off the roof accidentally. A glaciologist who is obsessed with her profession, she leads us on an icy mystery shrouded in the past incident that everyone seems to want to forget. Smilla and her sense of ice and snow is a strong metaphor for the people and places in this book. Cold, distant and determined the elements of this story seem not to want to be brought together in any kind of relationship.

The mechanic, as this character is referred to throughout the story, also lives in the building and had a special relationship with the boy. He falls in with Smilla in her investigation of the suspicious circumstances surrounding the boy's death. The more the police are determined to close the case as an unfortunate accident, the more determined the misanthropic Smilla and the enigmatic mechanic become.

#### LESLIE VERMEER

Projects Editor, The University of Alberta Press

"As a graduate student and editor, I'm always behind with current releases! The last two books I've read were *Birdsong* by Sebastian Faulkes (sombre but worthwhile) and *The Moor's Last Sigh* (playful and immense)"

My suggestions for summer reading—all in paperback, of course:

1. *She's Come Undone* by Wally Lamb. Funny, painful and moving. Dolores Price is an amazingly authentic character.
2. *The Cure for Death by Lightning* by Gail Anderson-Dargatz. A young woman's coming of age story, set in rural British Columbia; tough but hopeful.
3. *Sophie's World* by Jostein Gaardner. A small, gentle novel and, incidentally, a course in philosophy conducted by letters.

## Women's writing awards presented

By Folio staff

A total of 104 women participated in the Faculty of Extension's fourth annual Women's Words: Summer Writing Week June 2 through 8 with writers travelling from as far as New York, Arizona and the Maritimes to take part.

Thirty-five participants in the program read from their work at a special banquet at the Faculty Club June 5 and awards were presented to writers whose work has been submitted, or is ready to be submitted for publications. The awards were sponsored by Orlando Books and named after women writers whose lives or work are related to Alberta.

- The Miriam Mandel award for a poetry manuscript went to Lorie Miseck for her work, *the blue not seen*. The late Miriam Mandel was a winner of the Governor General Award for poetry.
- The Mary Heimstra award for a memoir manuscript went to Reit Scott-van Lijf for her manuscript *The Heavenly Kingdom*. The story is set in Holland in WWII. Mary Heimstra wrote *Gully Farm*, a memoir of the Barr Colonists which came to Lloydminster from England in 1903.
- The Christine van der Mark award for novel went to Ardith Trudzik for *It Would Kill Your Mother*, a novel set in Northern Alberta. Christine van der Mark wrote the first novel which came out of the U of A creative writing program. It was published in 1947. Instructors for the program included

Di Brandt, newly appointed associate professor of creative writing at the University of Windsor and short story writers Gloria Sawai, Ruth Krahn and Eunice Scarfe. ■

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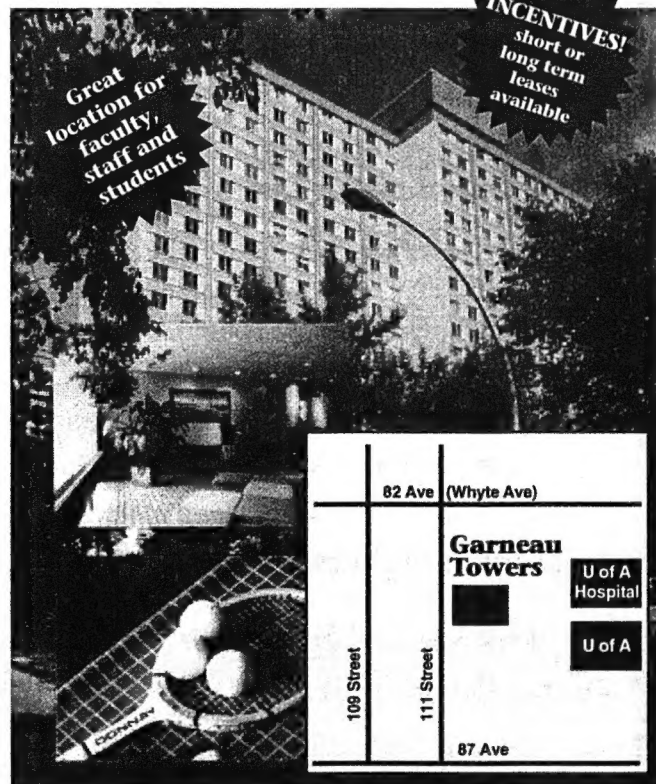
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### INTERNAL KPIS: STREET DRUG OF THE UNIVERSITY

Central Administration has recently presented to GFC a draft of its own "performance measures" (*Folio*, 30 May), because apparently they have some reservations about the KPIS developed by the Minister of AECD. I read the draft of these internal KPIS at GFC with considerable disappointment. None of them actually measures the quality of what we do. They have the stamp of over-simplicity and irrelevance that one has come to expect of all such attempts to reduce complex activities into simple numbers. What is this set of measures that Central Administration wishes to adopt?:

(1) To assess student quality, they will monitor two indices:

(a) the proportion of Alberta high school graduates achieving greater than 80 per cent and greater than 90 per cent matriculation average who attend the U of A, and

(b) the geographic source of our incoming students. They wish to increase the proportion of students from afar. Are we to infer from this that student quality somehow improves with the distance from Edmonton and Alberta? Or perhaps there is a perception that attracting more students from outside Alberta is one reflection of our growing national and international reputation. But our president has stated before that the quality of Alberta high school students is better than that of Ontario and Quebec students (see *Folio*, 29 November 1996). Why then would we want to increase student intake from these provinces? The whole field of KPI-manipulation is contaminated with this sort of fuzzy logic.

(2) To assess learning experience, there are two measures of "program quality," and both involve student satisfaction with their educational experience. I agree that

student satisfaction is an important indicator in its own right, but surely it does not substitute for more objective measures of program quality.

(3) To assess career outcomes, they will monitor overall employment success and relevance of employment to the graduate's educational experience. Unfortunately, there are many variables which influence overall employment, most of which are unrelated to anything that the university can do. "Relevance to employment" is whatever you wish to make of it. Is flipping hamburgers relevant employment for a business grad or a food science and nutrition grad, but irrelevant for all others?

Who defines 'relevance'? Isn't it more important to have employment which is challenging, interesting and relatively long-term irrespective of any link to one's degree program?

(4) Academic quality (really "quality of academic staff"). This indicator will have several measures associated with teaching and research. Research quality will be measured largely in terms of how much external research funding is attracted to the university. In principle this is not too bad as an intra-institutional measure, where the proportion of high-expense and low-expense research programs might remain relatively constant over time. But during a period of faculty renewal, many of our senior faculty (with presumably larger research grants) are being replaced by junior faculty, who may be attracting smaller grants in the short to medium term. How will our administration massage these data to our advantage?

There is a single measure used for teaching quality: the number of 3M Teaching Awards. We are all rightfully proud of the 16 Award winners from the U of A since 1986, but how does such an indicator relate even tangentially to overall teaching

quality? Perhaps Central Administration has developed a plan to ensure that henceforth our students will be taught only by our 3M Teaching Fellows?!

The University already has a mechanism in place for collecting an incredibly rich data base on student opinion of teaching. Perhaps there are ways of revising the universal teaching questionnaire so that it can provide us also with objective data useful for gauging course quality?

(5) Alumni financial support is the final performance measure proposed by the Administration. Considering that we've just launched the most aggressive fund-raising campaign in our history, surely it's a foregone conclusion that we'll look very good on this score over the next few years.

Why am I so suspicious of these activities; surely they are no worse than harmless? Wrong! It costs a surprising amount of money to collect, tabulate and analyze these data. Much of it is totally buried and perhaps fragmented in the system, and thus unlikely to be easily visible in any budget or financial statement. The British government imposed its own very complex system of KPIS on post-secondary institutions in the early eighties. It is estimated to approximately ten million pounds a year to administer. To waste valuable resources for which nobody is held accountable in order to collect meaningless data for the purpose of showing simplistic (though perhaps colorful) PowerPoint® presentations to the Board of Governors and GFC simply does not make any sense!

I urge all who care about our university to resist this wasteful exercise. None of us would want these irrelevant numbers to determine how we teach or do research. Education emerges from thoughtful interaction among people who

study and do research together, and none of this can be measured by *Maclean's*, by AECD nor by our administration with current KPIS. To my colleagues at GFC and everywhere, just say NO!

Reuben Kaufman, president, AAS:UA

### STUDENT THANKS DR. ELIZABETH CROWN FOR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT

It's Thursday evening, 9:30 p.m. It's time to tidy up the desk, time to pick out an outfit to wear tomorrow, time to double check the number of copies, time to rehearse one last time, time to sleep, time to stop worrying! It's the evening before an oral presentation and the butterflies are having a festival in my stomach.

The telephone screams and I jerk, startled and panicky. "Can I answer, do I have time to talk to anyone? Who doesn't know it is my big day tomorrow, who would phone to chat tonight?" The rings are like sirens, deafening and demanding. I submit.

"Hello Kay, this is Betty. I've just finished re-reading your final chapter and called to congratulate you. It flows nicely, you've done a good job. Tomorrow will go very well for you."

I whispered my appreciation and sank down onto the chair, relief flooding over me. A voice of support, a vote of confidence when I need it most. *A watchful star is shining over me tonight, tomorrow will be a day to celebrate.*

This short story is one of teaching with a heart. It is the story of a nervous and excited graduate student preparing for her master's oral defence and a thesis supervisor who is also a professor and department chair with many, many responsibilities that regularly extend her workday late into the evening. It is a story of a supervisor who, despite administrative pressures, understands and takes time for students. It is a true story and one which happened. It is with regret that we will no longer call on you, Dr. Crown, as chair of the Department of Human Ecology. You have served your colleagues and the university well throughout difficult faculty transitions. You have persevered with optimism and creative problem solving during devastating budget cuts. You have inspired students with technical expertise and gentle coaching when minutes were mythical and seconds were sacred. For me, you have been a role model in teaching professionalism and caring. And I thank you—humbly and most sincerely.

Kay McFadyen  
PhD student, Faculty of  
Educational Policy Studies

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# Campaign surpasses 54 per cent mark

**\$78 million raised and committed to fund-raising campaign**

By Michael Robb

WHERE WE STAND	
\$144,650,000	Campaign goal
- \$78,000,000	Raised so far
\$ 66,650,000	Money yet to raise

It's pretty basic mathematics. University fund raisers have raised \$78 million so far and must raise about \$66.65 million to meet the five-year campaign goal.

"We are where we expected to be," says Dr. Terry Flannigan, associate vice-president (external affairs). "By late September we're projecting we'll be at the \$100 million mark."

The University expects to raise \$60.4 million for scholarships, bursaries and learning environment, \$49.95 million for chairs, professorships and startup projects, and \$34.3 million for facilities.

"There have been no major surprises," says Flannigan. "We're very focused on asks, and the gifts are coming in where we expected them to come in." Financial insti-

tutions have been asked to donate to the campaign, the oil and gas sector and the pharmaceutical industry are about to be asked. Paper and pulp is on hold, given the state of the industry right now, he explained.

Flannigan expects a major part of the funding for the University's capital needs will come from government sources. He applauded the federal government's recent decision to establish the Canada Foundation for Innovation, which will provide financial support for the modernization of research infrastructure at Cana-

dian post-secondary institutions and research hospitals. "The U of A will aggressively pursue funding from the Foundation to fund projects. Our institution is already putting a list together."

The Foundation is designed to kick-start private sector investment in post-secondary education infrastructure. Contributions by the Foundation are expected to average 40 per cent of total costs, but in no case exceed 50 per cent.

While the money continues to roll in, something equally important is happening. Flannigan says in the past the Univer-

sity didn't do a good job of continuing communication with donors. Now, however, the campaign team is putting much more work in that area—thanking donors, letting them know how their money is being used and keeping them informed about developments at the University.

"When this campaign is completed, we will have changed the philanthropic culture of the University and its friends," he said. "We will continue to increase donors' involvement with the University." ■

## APPOINTMENTS

### RIDDELL TO ASSUME INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS POST

Norman Riddell has been appointed executive director of international affairs at the University of Alberta effective August 1, 1997.

Riddell brings a long and distinguished record in public service and international affairs to the position. In the 1970s and early 1980s, he was a diplomat in Canadian External Affairs and served in Brazil, the United Kingdom and the United States among other places.

Subsequently, he served as deputy minister of the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs and cabinet secretary for the Province of Saskatchewan. He moved from Saskatchewan to Quebec where he served as deputy minister of the Department of International Affairs, Immigration and Culture.

He is currently working as a consultant to the African Development Bank and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Riddell is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan and Stanford University. ■

## Stalking the Year 2000 computer glitch

by Darrell Murray

In a world where electronic super-highways are the streets and information fuel for the vehicles, a threat to computers word-wide lurks.

Ian Simpson, leader of *The Year 2000 Project* at the University of Alberta, hopes to lessen this threat by acting as a voice of warning.

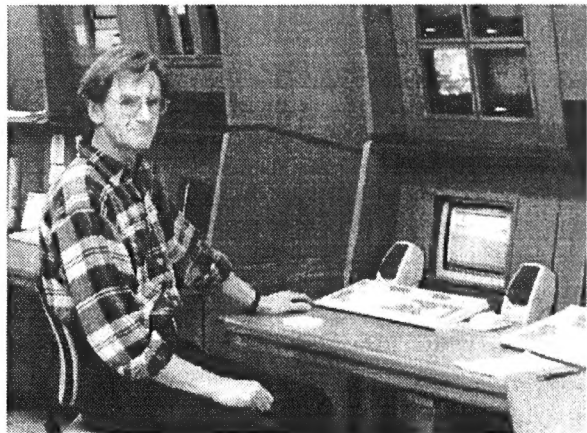
The problem was created in the 1960s when memory was scarce and computer costs were high. Programmers were told to find more efficient ways to program computers. One way they did this was by removing two digits in the year. Instead of 1964, computers were programmed for just two digits, 64.

This more efficient and cost effective way of inputting the date on computers (using two digits instead of four), now threatens to stop the clock just as it strikes the Year 2000 – a *time bomb*, so to speak.

Simpson says, "not all computers will fail at the year 2000. Some will fail before and some after. If you are using a spreadsheet and projecting past the year 2000 it may be failing now."

Microsoft Excel 95, for example, depending on the version, will fail in 2078 and 2019. Microsoft Excel 97 will fail, depending on the version, in 2029 and 9999. Why Microsoft does not make all their end dates 9999 is anyone's guess.

When the year 2000 arrives (00), some computers will think it is the year 1900, others will think it is the year 1980, and still others will become random number generators.



Ian Simpson

Simpson's hands are full answering questions and trying to fix problems before they happen. "We are not going to be able to catch all the problems," he says. "We need to expect that some errors will happen."

Every system that depends on time will be in danger of failure: air traffic control computers, elevator computers, traffic light computers, all government tax systems, social security, Medicare, accounting, and payroll systems.

The consequences, says Simpson, could range from humorous to disastrous.

A trip to Microsoft's home page provides the written testimonial they presented to the United States Congress, outlining the problem, questions, concerns, and Microsoft's involvement in the original problem as well as their involvement in the solution.

Simpson will talk to any group at the University with questions about the year 2000 problem. Simpson said, "not all com-

puters will fail," however, "mainframes are the most vulnerable."

To check a computer for a potential failure look at the way the clock stores the year date. If the year appears in a two digit format, problems may occur.

Check the software as well as the BIOS (basic information operating system) – both use time clocks.

Once a problem has been located, there are a number of possible solutions:

- First, several companies are selling software patches.

Simply install the patch.

- Second, if you know how, change the clocks manually when the year 2000 arrives.
- Third, upgrade your computer system.
- And fourth, do nothing. In some cases the time problem does not really matter.

If not corrected, the problem with dates could potentially crash every world market, cripple companies and endanger lives. But in most cases it simply won't matter. "Public awareness is the key," says Simpson. People need to be aware the problem exists, recognize it and how it might affect the work they do and, if need be do something to fix it.

The University may face some serious challenges with registration, grades, students bursaries, and so forth. Simpson says the biggest threat will be to any computer that requires an accurate time for calculations or projections. ■



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<http://www.ualberta.ca/SYMPOSIUM/> (Phone: 492-9370)



By Christopher Levan

"If my marriage is supposed to be such a joyous occasion, why do I feel so miserable?" Such was the lament of the bride as she sat in my study years ago and recounted to her pastor the soap opera drama of her wedding preparations. The stepmother was refusing to attend if she couldn't have her name on the invitations, a lesbian sister was threatening to "come out" to a conservative uncle at the rehearsal party. The natural, now-living-apart parents were adamant that the other should have no part in the walk-down-the-aisle portion of the service. Warring factions were even refusing to negotiate equitable seating arrangements at the reception.

"For better, for worse..."

Besides marriages, nothing brings out the worst in people more than a political election. As is the case in interpersonal relations, national conflicts and tensions are exaggerated when cast into the public arena. There's nothing like a platform to produce friction in the fold.

A case in point. A few weeks ago at the peak of the name-calling between Reformers and New Democrats, and when previously deplorable words like "bigot" were employed on both sides, I took my chance to make a fool of myself. Driving down the street past a series of young people holding Reform signs for their big rally at the Butterdome, I rolled down the window and explained, politely enough (after all, I'm still Canadian) that I thought the Reform party was promoting racism through its ads attacking politicians from the other solitude.

Now that I stand in the cooling pools of post-electoral sobriety, I can see how such insults and accusations impede the discovery of wisdom. We will never find a solution to the predicament that faces our

country simply by hurling slogans over the walls that separate us.

Allow me to return to the marriage imagery as a parable of our nation. When relationships went sour and people arrived at my church office for pastoral counselling, it was often the case both parties were right and both were wrong.

They employed the similar words and related to the same set of shared experiences, but their interpretations were so divergent that they often talked past each other. In a frustrating and often pitiful series of monologues, they twisted the events to serve their own perspective. In that rarefied climate, even gestures of reconciliation from their partner were viewed with suspicion and mistrust.

As a country, are we not at this point of mutual disregard? While there are many solitudes, imagine the traditional

two, French and English, like a married couple. We went to the altar for different reasons, and we've misunderstood each other ever since.

So, in an effort to patch up the gaps in our relationship, the English-speaking suitor has been trying, for the past 20 years, to entice the French-speaking partner out onto the dance floor. For a number of reasons, there has been reluctance and suspicion about this initiation. Finally, with the offers of Meech Lake and the Charlottetown Accord, the French-speaking spouse agreed to come out and dance. "If it will help things, I'll try." But no sooner had they stepped onto the floor than the once ardent English-speaking companion sat down and didn't want to dance.

Now from the Anglo perspective, the story has been almost exactly the opposite. We've pranced through any number of

different steps, and the other solitude has sat sullenly in a corner, never satisfied.

If I was back in that study, I'd make the traditional plea-filled pitch. "It's time to relax our 'exaggeration reflexes' and stop seeing ulterior motives and hidden agendas in the others person's actions. Is it possible to listen with open ears and see our relationship through the other's eyes?"

Surely, the University can be a locus for this kind of national marital advocacy. That's a tall order, complicated by geography and language, but is it not neutral ground where truth is valued above suspicion and distortions are discarded in favour of realism?

The step toward reconciliation is not rocket science. A little trust, some common ground rules and a mountain of courage is all it takes. May it be so for Canada. ■

Dr. Christopher Levan is the principal of St. Stephen's College.

## Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies initiates major trade meet

Three Western premiers, top federal government leaders and the prime minister of Ukraine will gather in Calgary June 15 to 17 for a conference initiated by the U of A's Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS).

Dr. Zenon Kohut, director of CIUS, says, "The two sides will have a unique opportunity to talk about the potential and the problems associated with doing business together."

Ukraine's Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko will head the Ukrainian delegation of 150 senior government and business figures. He will also be the keynote

speaker at the June 15 banquet, co-hosted by Alberta Premier Ralph Klein, Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow and Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon.

The federal minister of foreign affairs and the minister of international trade will be among key government banking and industry figures addressing an investment and development forum June 16.

Panel discussions will focus on important issues affecting business initiatives in Ukraine from land privatization, political developments, banking and investment to Canada's trade policies.

Energy, agriculture and construction programs will take place concurrently with Calgary's InterCan Oil and Gas Show, Regina's Farm Progress Show and Winni-

peg's Canadian Building Products and Construction Conference, respectively.

While the project was spearheaded by CIUS, the conference, titled *The Canada Ukraine Business Initiative '97*, is supported by the federal government's Western Economic Diversification Program and the three provincial governments. CIUS is currently involved in a \$2.2 million three-year Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) program to assist senior policy-makers in Ukraine introduce legislative reform.

"This initiative puts CIUS in the forefront of the University's mandate of arranging partnerships with business and with the community at large," says Kohut. ■

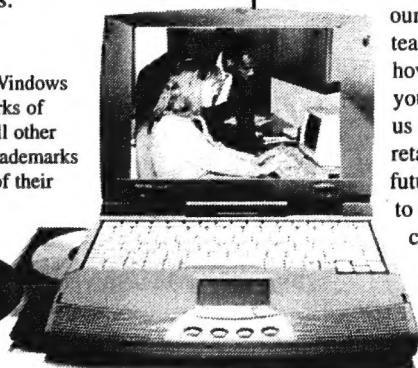
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### TALKS

#### ANATOMY AND CELL BIOLOGY AND THE ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

July 28, 10:00 a.m.

Carolyn E Machamer, Associate Professor, Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, "Role of Lipids in Golgi Membrane Targeting" 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

#### BIOCHEMISTRY AND ONCOLOGY

June 18, 11:00 a.m.

James Ingles, Professor, Banting & Best Department of Medical Research and Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular & Medical Genetics, University of Toronto, "Fishing for Proteins: Protein

Interactions in Transcription and DNA repair." 207, Heritage Medical Research Building.

#### CHEMISTRY

July 8; 11:00 a.m.

Thomas J Simpson, School of Chemistry, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, "Chemical and Biochemical studies of polyketide antibiotic biosynthesis" E3-25 Chemistry Centre.

#### PHARMACOLOGY

June 16, 4 p.m.

Forrest F Weight, Chief, Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Rockville, MD, "Molecular Neurobiology of Alcohol." Room 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

## NAME OUR NEW STORE AND WIN!

U of A Bookstores are opening a new HUB Mall location in August and we need a name ... one that's fun, one that's memorable, one that's clever.

Bring your suggestions to any U of A Bookstore or e-mail them to [judy@bookstore.ualberta.ca](mailto:judy@bookstore.ualberta.ca). All entries must include your name, phone number and cannot be accepted by phone.

Deadline for entries is July 14, 1997.

If we choose your name, you will

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## NOTICES

### FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR DR. ALLAN TUPPER

Members of the University community are invited to join President Rod Fraser and (Acting) Vice-President Roger Smith in a farewell reception for Associate Vice-President Allan Tupper. Dr. Tupper is leaving the University of Alberta to begin his new appointment as Vice-President (Academic), Acadia University on July 1, 1997.

All friends and colleagues of Allan and Peggy Tupper are welcome to attend: June 24, 1997, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the

Papaschase Room of the Faculty Club. RSVP Brenda Brammar, 492-5335.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION RETIREMENT FUNCTION

The Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation is hosting a retirement dinner and program to honor Dr. Tim Burton, Mr. Bill Gibson, Dr. Ann Hall, Dr. Barry Mitchelson, Dr. Mohan Singh, Dr. Garry Smith and Dr. Len Wankel, Wednesday, June 18, 1997 at the Timms Centre for the Arts. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:30 p.m. Dress is semi-formal. Tickets are \$20 and available until June 16 from P220 Athletics. Call 492-2327.



Lee Elliot

### PARKING SERVICES BECOMES AN "ALBERTA BEST BUSINESS"

Emily Ellis of Parking Services seems to like the new level of customer service at the U of A. Ellis gets service with a smile from Director of Real Estate Allan Mah, Al Parsons, president and CEO of ATEC and James Fleming, associate vice-president (operations and physical resources). The group was celebrating Parking Service's new status as the first University department recognized as an "ALBERTA BEST Business" by ATEC, an organization specializing in the customer service training. Forty-three of 45 Parking Services employees have graduated from the program since January.

### RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR PETER BANKS

Peter Banks, a long time employee of the Office of the Comptroller, will be retiring from the University June 30. An invitation is extended to all Peter's friends to attend a reception in his honor on Thursday, June 26, 1997 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the MAP Room at Lister Hall. Please RSVP before June 24 to Harriet Campbell (492-5140) or Joyce Assen (492-2895). Contributions for a gift are graciously accepted and may be

sent to Room 105 Administration Building, attention Joyce.

### TRIBUTE TO GENE LEHEL

To honor Dr. Gene Lechelt's twelve years as department chair, the Department of Psychology cordially invites friends and colleagues to join us for a reception on Thursday, June 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Alumni House. If you plan to attend, please contact Georgina Burstow by phone (492-0964) or e-mail: gburstow@psych.ualberta.ca.

Résumé

## POSITIONS

The University of Alberta is committed to the principle of equity of employment. As an employer we welcome diversity in the workplace and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including Aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities, and members of visible minorities.

### TEXTILE CONSERVATOR

#### POSITION:

Textile Conservator  
(Faculty Service Officer)  
Department of Human Ecology  
Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry  
and Home Economics

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

Teaches practical aspects of textile conservation, is responsible for all aspects of conservation of items in the Clothing & Textiles Collection; manages the fee-for-service Textile Conservation Service; supervises a conservation intern; participates in ongoing research.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

MSc in textiles and clothing, conservation or related field. Minimum three years experience as a textile conservator; demonstrated teaching ability.

#### SALARY:

Dependent upon experience  
\$33,144 to \$46,992.

#### NOTE:

0.5 salary generated from fee-for-service work.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE:

September 1, 1997  
Application deadline:  
June 30, 1997

Send CV and the names of three referees to Dr. Betty Crown, chairperson, Department of Human Ecology, 115 Home Economics Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2M8. Phone: (403) 492-3883; fax: (403) 492-4821; E-mail: betty.crown@ualberta.ca.

### There will be a meeting of the GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

on Monday, June 16, 1997 at 2:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, University Hall.

If you would like to have a copy of the GFC agenda, drop by 2-5 University Hall or call the University Secretariat at 492-4965, and we will fax or mail a copy of the agenda to you.



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RENT

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KEHEEWIN - NEW EXECUTIVE CONDO, immaculate, furnished, near Heritage Mall, two bedrooms, two full baths, underground parking, main floor unit. \$950/month includes all utilities except phone, August 30. Western Relocation, 434-4629.

GLENORA - Villa Avenue. Furnished character home, 3,000', \$2,000/month. September-May, 1998. Western Relocation, 434-4629.

WINDSOR PARK - spacious, furnished home. \$800/month, July 1. Two bedrooms on main floor. Rec room, laundry, two bedrooms reserved for us two months per year in basement. Alison, (619) 273-7173.

FOUR BEDROOM CHARACTER HOUSE partially furnished in Glenora. Good access to University/downtown. No smokers. No pets. References required. 890-8053.

IDEAL FOR NATURALIST, writer, or artist. Two bedroom bungalow style house with basement, 1200 square feet, natural gas heat, appliances. Situated on 115 conservation area acres beside 400 acre lake and boreal forest, 24 miles northwest of Athabasca. \$500 a month plus utilities. Please call 675-6340 (work); 675-2930 (home).

UNIVERSITY-AREA desirable homes. Possible rent-to-own, (403) 433-5674. E-mail: aurora@planet.eon.net

SASKATCHEWAN DRIVE: comfortably furnished large condo apartment with one bedroom. River views, indoor pool, sauna, heated garage, utilities included. Moderate rent for reliable non-smoking tenant. \$550/month one person, \$700 for two. References, D.D. letter of agreement required. September 15 (possibly earlier) until end April 1998. 439-1690.

ERMINESKIN BUNGALOW - three plus two bedrooms, double garage, developed basement, three baths, fireplace, six appliances, drapes, large yard, privacy, close to UofA. Available late August/September 1. \$950. 435-5085, 484-3134.

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THREE STOREY, SIX BEDROOM, three bathroom, renovated and upgraded Victorian. In Riverdale, overlooking river, close downtown and University. Huge lot adjoining parks and trails. Long-term lease available. \$1,300/month. 452-1337.

BELGRAVIA, SUNNY HOME. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, hardwood floors, garage, five appliances. Available July 1, \$925. 492-3601 days, 435-5402 evenings.

WALK TO U of A. Well-kept house, three bedrooms. Southern exposure glassed-in veranda, four appliances, available for long-term stay. 492-5464, 987-2980 after 6.

SABBATICAL HOME - Glenora. Fully furnished. August 26/September 1 - June 1998. No smokers/pets. Adults only. Negotiable. 454-6038.

GLENORA: LARGE HOME for lease. Hardwood, tile flooring, three bedrooms, three baths. Walk-out from family room. Pleasant south yard with huge deck. Appliances, security system. Double attached garage. \$1,400 per month. No pets. Nonsmoking home. Florence Thompson, Prudential Spencer, 436-6833.

MODERN UNIVERSITY AREA, allergy free, 2,100' furnished home. Sept./Oct. - May. \$1,250/month plus utilities. Call (403)432-0456. E-mail: rfleuritl@puu.srv.ualberta.ca.

EXECUTIVE HOUSE, two bedroom, hot tub, central, fireplace, two blocks from UofA. One year or school term. \$750 upper floors, \$1,000 complete house. Attached garage. 439-5554. Resident cat. Family preferred.

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VICTORIA PROPERTIES - Knowledgeable, trustworthy realtor with Edmonton references will answer all queries, send information, no cost/obligation. "Hassle-free" property management provided. (250) 383-7100, Lois Dutton, Duttons & Co. Ltd. #101-364 Moss Street, Victoria B.C. V8V 4N1

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LRT at door to UofA - executive, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, fireplace, pool, underground parking, over 1,300', also one 1,284', built as condo, 9th and 6th floors. Westwind Estates, 9809 110 Street, \$109,900 and \$110,200. Ask for Connie Kennedy, Re/Max, 488-4000, 1-800-275-8191, 7 days.

NORTH WINDSOR PARK - two blocks from University. Spacious architect designed home on very large, well-treed lot. Attached double garage. July. \$325,000. 433-4510.

BELGRAVIA - JUST LISTED! Value Range Marketing \$190,000-\$230,000. "As new" spectacular modern design and exceptional quality. Superior location and landscaping. Just bring your artwork and enjoy! Carolyn Ampleford, Prudential Spencer Real Estate, 483-7170.

RIVERDALE, super location, block from river. Charming, sunny bungalow, 970'. Large sunny yard, 50' x 150'. Several bus routes plus bicycle trail. \$109,900. Kye Agopowicz, Sutton Realty, 438-2500.

TERWILLEGER LOCATION. Traditional plan. Five bedrooms, second level. Bright rooms. West exposed, private treed yard, neutral decor. French doors, ideal family home, immaculate condition. \$229,000. Walking trails, transit close. Florence Thompson, Prudential Spencer, 483-7170.

SOUTHWEST PICTURE PERFECT, 2,070 sq ft four bedroom home. European kitchen, open plan, three full bathrooms, jacuzzi, attached double garage. \$166,000. Liz Crockford, Re/Max, 438-7000.

LANDSOWNE NEW LISTING! Four bedroom, two storey, all upgraded inside. New white kitchen; three newer bathrooms, oak flooring, newer carpet, light and bright throughout, four phone lines handy for office, extra bedroom down.

Direct bus to University, 10 minutes. Liz Crockford, Re/Max, 438-7000, 435-5092.

### ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED

HOUSESITTER: Mature, non-smoking grad, pets welcome, house-sitting references, Letter of Agreement, Mark, 455-4351.

HOUSESITTER - quiet, mature, nonsmoking professional lady. Excellent references. Leave message, 917-3227.

SEEKING CONDO/HOUSE for rent near UofA. 433-4277.

HOUSESITTER: mature, nonsmoking medical student; long-term house-sitting experience. Available from July. References available. 434-1524, 445-7192.

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE seek quality home to lease. Prefer September 1. University, (N) Glenora, Crestwood, Mill Creek, etc. 482-2958.

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# Black cats, broken mirrors and Friday the 13th

By Deborah Johnston



"Daily life holds enough unpredictability that we still turn to superstitions to account for the unaccountable. So thumbs up, fingers crossed, cross your heart.."

— Dr. Henry Janzen, professor, educational psychology

A black cat darts across your path. Just a black cat in a hurry to get somewhere. No big deal. Doesn't mean anything.

A ladder blocks the sidewalk. It's a pretty tall ladder, you could walk underneath—but it's just as easy to walk around. Besides, a bucket of paint or something could fall on your head. That's all.

Be honest. If you were booking a flight—and you had your choice of departure dates—would you choose to fly on Friday the 13th?

"Not on your life," insists Michelle Blonar, assistant manager of the U of A

Bookstore. "There's just something about that day. I don't know how to explain it: a nagging sense in the back of mind that something bad would happen."

"A lot of clients don't want to fly on that day," says Colleen Ruhl of Travel Cuts, the student travel agency on campus. "It's one of the easiest days to book a flight. There's always space available. Fortunately, we don't have many Friday the 13ths in a year."

True, this year has only one Friday the 13th, but for the *triskadekophobic*, that's one too many. The disastrous date is supposedly the unluckiest day of the year. The

origin for the superstition is unclear. Some say it comes from the last supper, in which the 13th apostle betrayed Jesus Christ. In fact, Friday the 13th has a nasty biblical history: it's supposedly the day Eve tempted Adam with the apple; the day Christ was crucified; the day the ark set sail; the day the confusion of tongues struck the Tower of Babel. No wonder the date has fearful connotations.

"I'm not afraid of the number 13," says prospect researcher Tracey Schell—as she knocks wood—"but my grandmother was. She would not sit down to a dinner table if there were thirteen people seated.

And she once cancelled surgery scheduled for Friday the 13th."

It's not just the admittedly-superstitious who feel a little nervous on Friday the 13th. According to educational psychologist Dr. Henry Janzen, everybody is a little superstitious. "People don't attribute all that happens to a consequence of their own action. Most of us believe in uncertainties of nature."

And if there's a possibility of tipping the psychic odds in one's favor—why not? Superstition and sports seem to go hand in hand, and pre-game rituals are common. Dan Carle, sports information coordinator, says "hockey players are generally superstitious. Stick curves, stick tapping, how the jersey is tucked in, in what order and how equipment is fastened to the body—the quirks are rampant throughout the sport."

If those rituals and superstitions appear to work, Janzen says they'll be reinforced. How superstitious you are, he claims, depends on where your *locus of control* is strongest. "In psychology we have studied the impact of internal versus external locus of control and how it affects people's behaviors." Janzen explains that people who have an internal locus of control are masters of their own destiny, less likely to believe that external factors affect their lives. (They're the people who board a plane on Friday the 13th without a second thought).

There is hope for those of us with an external locus of control, Janzen notes. "If we want to change it, we have to dig deep into people's belief systems and provide them with an alternate explanation. We now have scientific explanations for many once mysterious phenomenon." He says that doesn't eliminate the tendency for superstition, however. "Daily life has enough unpredictability that we still, especially in times of misfortune, turn to superstitions to account for the unaccountable." ■

## "New, new" art springs from the studios in HUB

By Lee Elliott

Dr. Graham Peacock is recognized as a leading artist of what has been dubbed "new new painting." But teaching the kind of art he's made his reputation on isn't easy.

"We teach abstract art in the regular term," says Peacock, "but it's severely restricted by space availability and the students are restricted by budget." To overcome these problems, Peacock is holding the first of what he hopes will become a regular spring session workshop in abstract painting. His vision for the program is that entry will become competitive and budgets will enable them to attract guest artists.

To get the program off the ground, Peacock was able to secure studio space usually used for up to 80 students for the 18 participants in the first six-week class. He was also able to secure donations that help subsidize the cost of materials for students, who invest between \$150 and \$500 each for materials on top of the cost of the course.

"The development and the gains of the concentrated program are enormous," says Peacock. "The regular program is in some ways too fractured." Students in the

regular sessions still work at a high level of accomplishment, he says, "but this is highly motivating and effective. . . . You have to make a lot of work to get good at it." And the spring sessions format allows for the concentration to produce a great deal of work over a relatively short period of time.

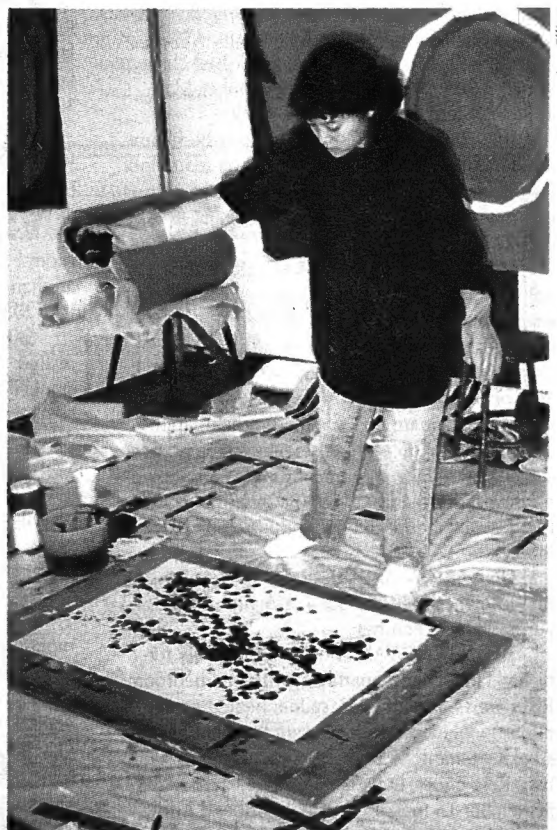
The U of A is recognized internationally for its contribution to abstract painting and sculpture, says Peacock. "Art critic Clement Greenberg mentions Edmonton as a leader of abstract painting and sculpture. It stuns many audiences because they have no idea where Edmonton is."

In the six-week program, students are painting their way through the history of abstract art, he says. They explore shape, color, line, figure/ground and extraordinary materials. "It's a very challenging development because it's the sort of stripping away of what can become crutches for work," says Peacock.

Students are also watching art videos, touring galleries and have visited the studios of Doug Haynes, a former U of A professor, and alumnus Robert Scott among others.

Student Grant Mah says the class has given him a new idea of what painting is all about. "It just ties everything to the use of color, the composition . . . it teaches us to look at things differently and to see things differently." Mah says he's been spending long hours in the studio over the course of the program "I'm actually working things out in the workshop . . . the concentration does make a lot of difference."

The class is holding an open house at the studio, HUB 100, Friday June 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. They will also be displaying work at the FAB Gallery starting June 27. The sponsors who helped make the session possible include: Quality Color, U of A Parking Services, Citadel Theatre, Imagination Market, Alley Kat Brewing Company, Revelstoke Home Centre, Technicare Inc., Power Plant Restaurant and Bar, Garth Rankin Photography, Brin Murray Graphic Design, Java Jive, Pro-Western Plastic Co., HUB Photo and the U of A Bookstore. ■



Student Grace Lee explores a drip technique.